2/12/07

House Natural Resources Committee State Capitol, Room 472 Helena, MT 59620

RE: Support House Bill 460

Honorable Chairman and Members of the House Natural Resources Committee:

Stillwater Mining Company would like to go on record in <u>support</u> of House Bill 460. As currently drafted HB-460:

- Provides needed clarification and detail associated with established reclamation criteria and the process of reclamation plan amendments.
- Provides a statutory provision and a regulatory process for determining and securing temporary interim bonds as a result of unanticinated changes in conditions or circumstances.
- Provides a reasonable process for conducting a temporary bond review which is based upon proven science and factual information.
- Provides statutory language that is clear, defensible and technology based.

Stillwater Mining Company <u>supports</u> House Bill 460 to clarify reclamation plan requirements, provide for temporary bonds in unanticipated circumstances, with a reasonable process to determine the temporary bond amount, and provides statutory language that is science and technology based.

Sincerely,

Bruce Gilbert

Director of Environmental & Governmental Affairs

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